

## IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for enabling remote access to and retrieval of files of a web services application, said method comprising:

defining a virtual directory within a web container hosting the web services application, said virtual directory specifying a location of specific list of files having a given pattern, wherein said web container recognizes requests that include said virtual directory;

registering each file pattern of said files with said web container; [[and]]

when a request is received, analyzing said request to determine if said request contains the virtual directory appended to the URL;

when said request does not contain the virtual directory, initiating an invocation of the web services application corresponding to said URL and providing said requestor with access to functionality of said web services application;

when a request is received with said virtual directory appended to a universal resource locator (URL) of the web services application, recognizing said client request as a request to retrieve one of said files;

wherein said step of recognizing said request as a request for retrieval of a file further includes:

identifying whether a filename is appended to said virtual directory; and

when no filename is appended to said virtual directory, returning an outermost file from said pre-specified directory to said requestor.

wherein, when a filename is appended to said directory:

determining whether said filename has a correct predefined pattern;

when said filename has said correct predefined pattern, searching said pre-specified directory for said filename; and

when said filename is found, returning said copy of said file from said pre-specified directory to said requestor;

registering said filenames and predefined patterns with the applications server, wherein said applications server recognizes that a request for a file having said pattern is found at a pre-established directory;

encoding an automatic response by said applications server, wherein said applications server automatically forwards all requests for files with said predefined pattern to the web container hosting the web services application;

providing the file pattern to a requestor during a publication of the web services application's wsdl (web services definition language) document;

adding an associated wsdl accessing URL-pattern at a runtime initialization phase for URL pattern for each registered web services application, wherein said adding step includes:

placing all wsdl files within a single predefined directory; and

enabling all soap addresses to only appear in an outermost file;

providing dynamic servlet registration, wherein when a web container runtime is initialized, a corresponding wsdl accessing URL-pattern is generated for each URL mapping of web services servlet;

modifying said servlet to be able to recognize and handle the new URL pattern via a wsdl search algorithm;

implementing said search algorithm according to established criteria from among (1) maintaining referential integrity among filenames and their root directory; (2) non-modification of original existing deployment definitions files; and (3) non-modification of original wsdl files;

storing each of said files with predefined file patterns at a pre-specified directory path within said web container, which path is associated with an endpoint directory of said web services application, wherein all file searches occur within said pre-specified directory and subdirectories affiliated therewith;

generating a correct Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) address for said file;

returning said SOAP address along with said copy of said file to said requestor.

returning an error message indicating that said filename does not exist within said pre-specified directory when the filename does not have a correct predefined pattern; and

returning an outermost file from said endpoint directory to said requestor and messaging said requestor that the filename does not exist when the filename does have a correct predefined pattern but is not found within said pre-specified directory.

2 - 33. (canceled)